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FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS
CONCLUSION
the SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
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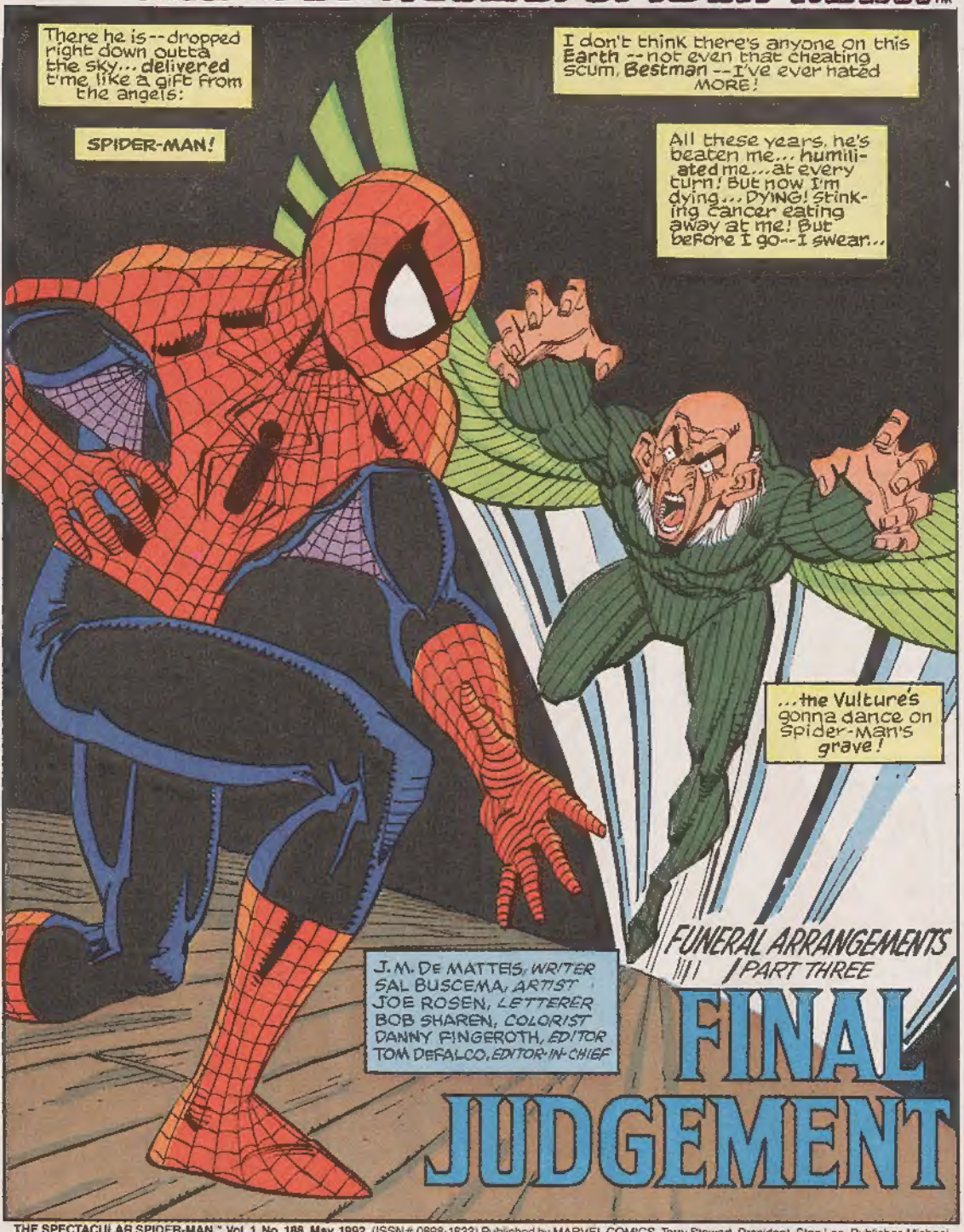
30TH ANNIVERSARY 1962 1992
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, STUDENT PETER PARKER GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID! ARMED WITH HIS WONDROUS WEB-SHOOTERS, THE RELUCTANT SUPER HERO STRUGGLES WITH SINISTER SUPER-VILLAINS, MAKING ENDS MEET, AND MAINTAINING SOME SEMBLANCE OF A NORMAL LIFE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!™


There he is--dropped right down outta the sky... delivered t'me like a gift from the angels:
SPIDER-MAN!
I don't think there's anyone on this Earth--not even that cheating scum, Bestman--I've ever hated MORE!
All these years, he's beaten me... humiliated me... at every turn! But now I'm dying... DYING! Stinking cancer eating away at me! But before I go--I swear...
...the Vulture's gonna dance on Spider-Man's grave!

J. M. DeMATTEIS, *WRITER*
SAL BUSCEMA, *ARTIST*
JOE ROSEN, *LETTERER*
BOB SHAREN, *COLORIST*
DANNY FINGEROTH, *EDITOR*
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FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS / PART THREE

FINAL JUDGEMENT

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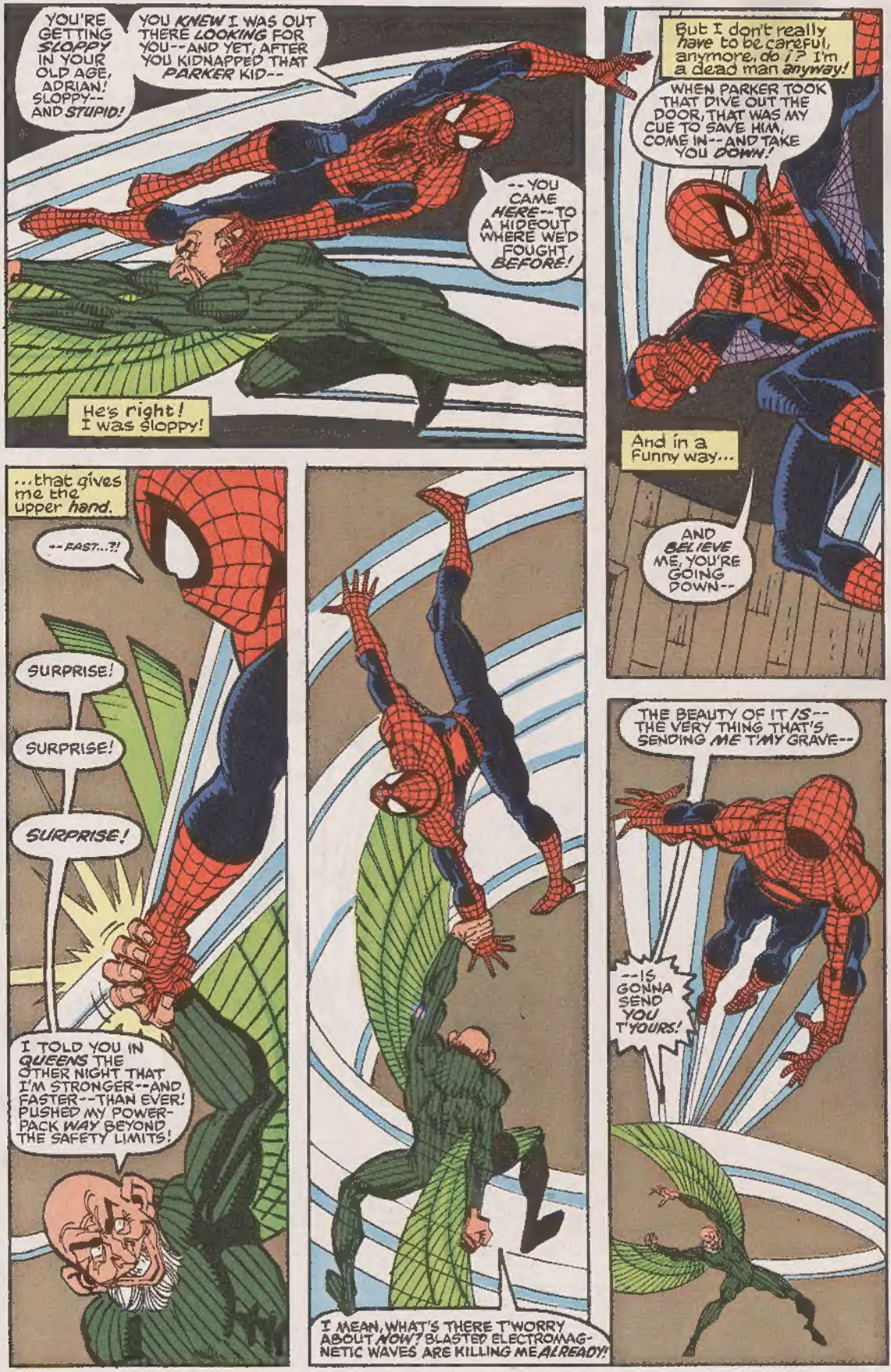
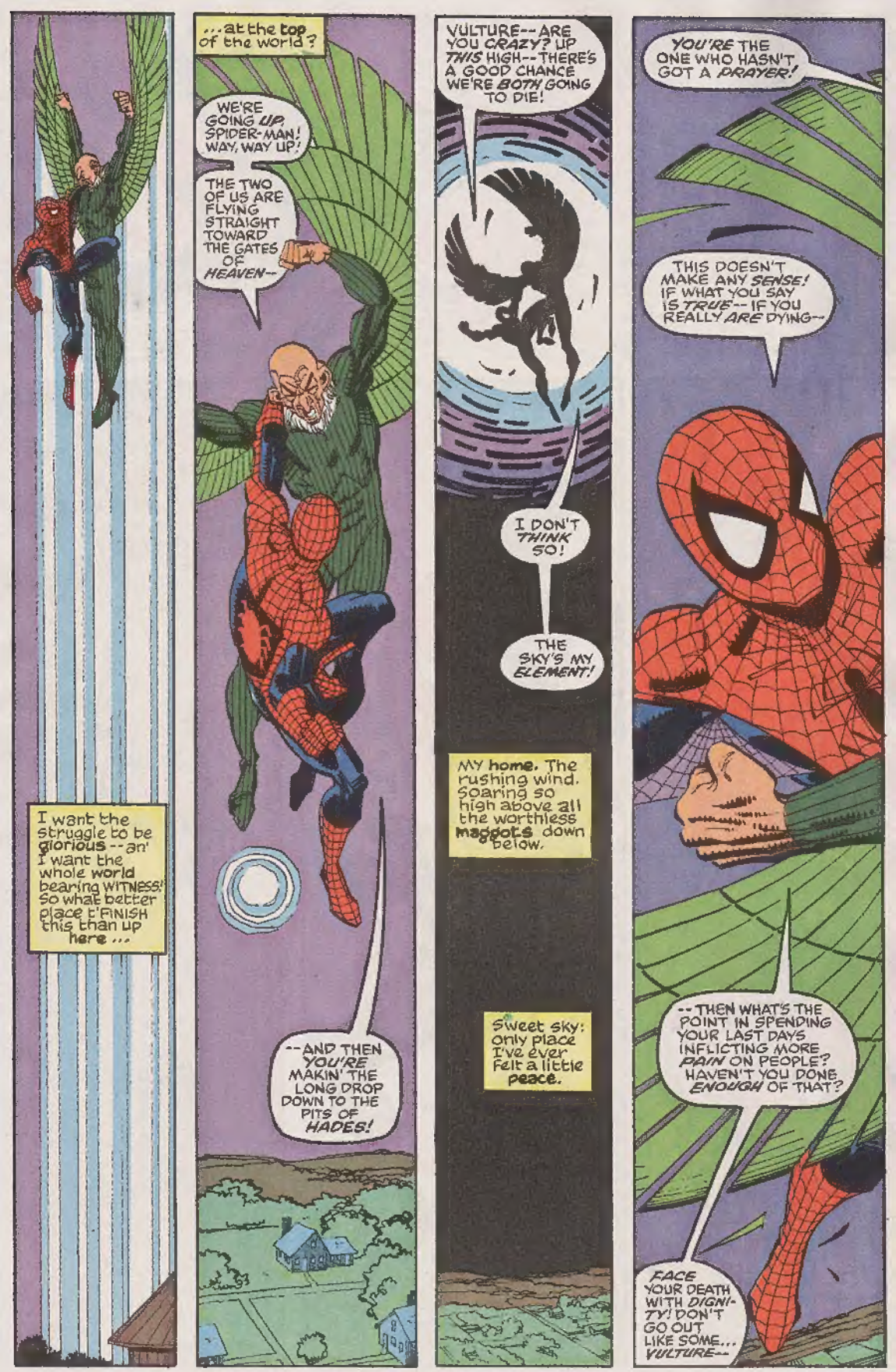
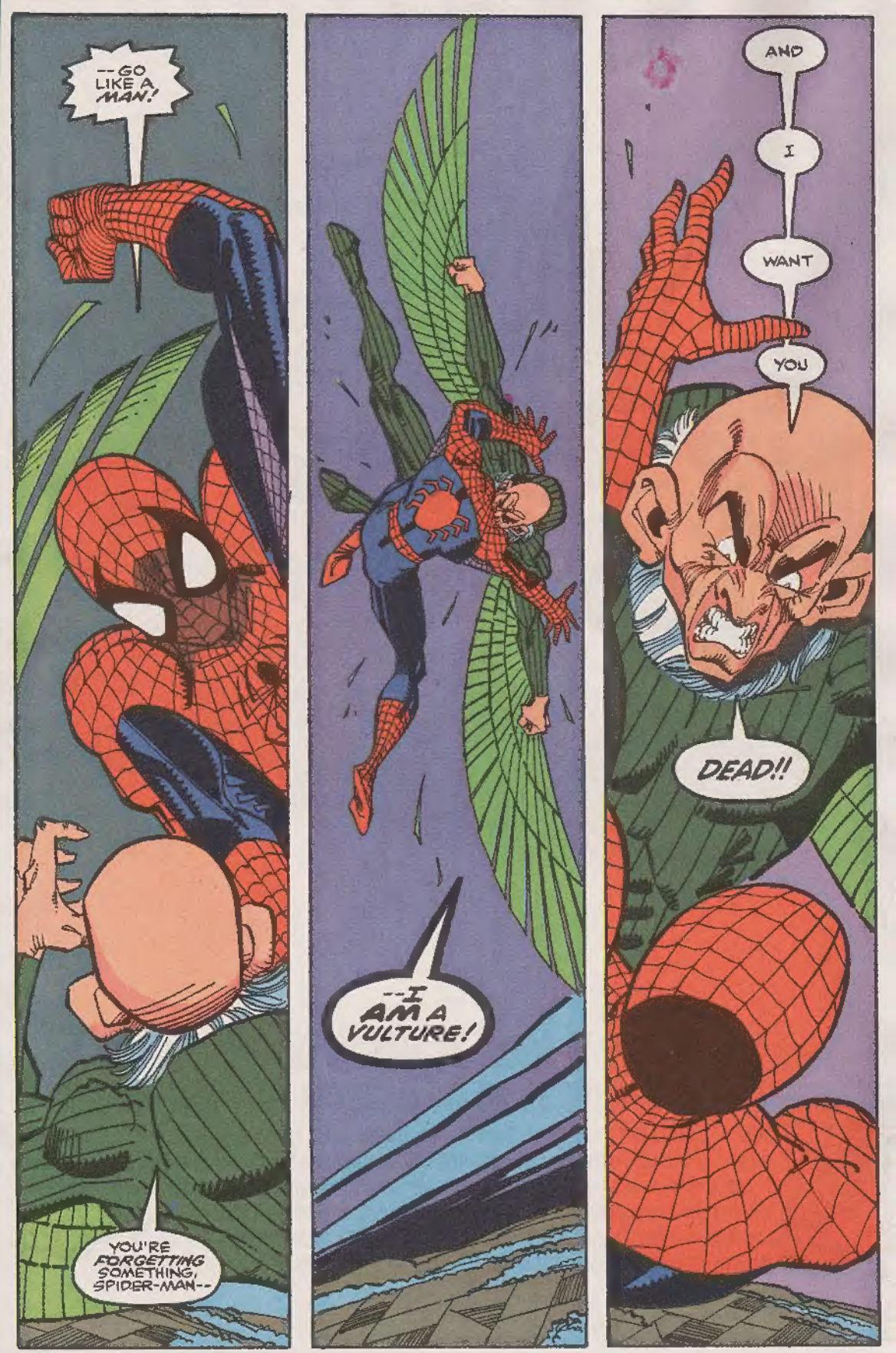
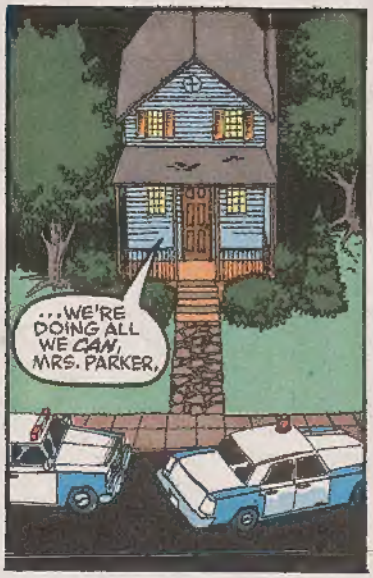
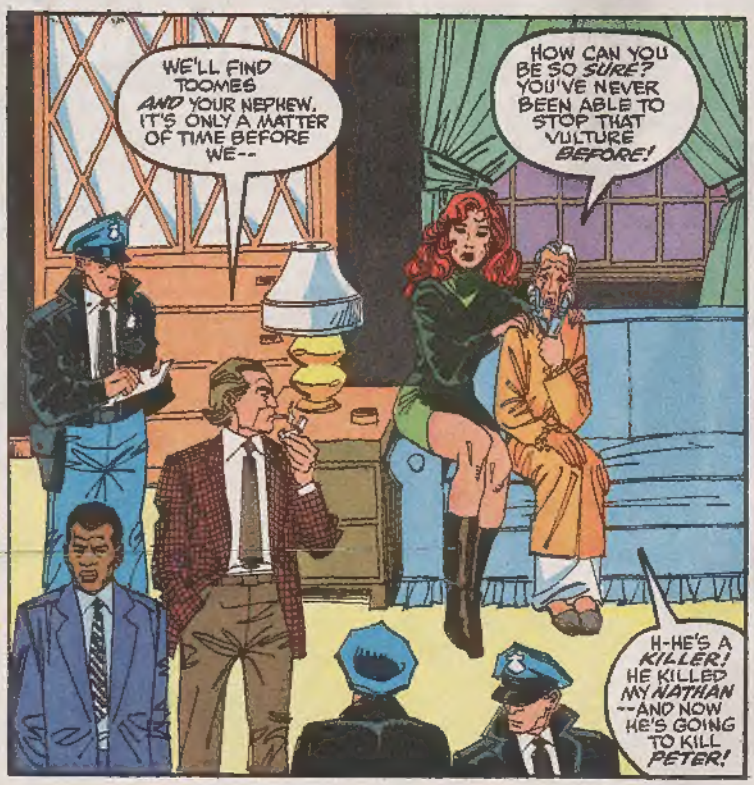

YOU'RE GETTING SLOPPY IN YOUR OLD AGE, ADRIAN! SLOPPY--AND STUPID!
YOU KNEW I WAS OUT THERE LOOKING FOR YOU--AND YET, AFTER YOU KIDNAPPED THAT PARKER KID--
--YOU CAME HERE--TO A HIDEOUT WHERE WE'D FOUGHT BEFORE!
He's right! I was sloppy!
But I don't really have to be careful, anymore, do I? I'm a dead man anyway!
WHEN PARKER TOOK THAT DIVE OUT THE DOOR, THAT WAS MY CUE TO SAVE HIM, COME IN--AND TAKE YOU DOWN!
And in a funny way...
AND BELIEVE ME, YOU'RE GOING DOWN--
...that gives me the upper hand.
--FAST...?!
SURPRISE!
SURPRISE!
SURPRISE!
I TOLD YOU IN QUEENS THE OTHER NIGHT THAT I'M STRONGER--AND FASTER--THAN EVER! PUSHED MY POWER-PACK WAY BEYOND THE SAFETY LIMITS!
I MEAN, WHAT'S THERE T'WORRY ABOUT NOW? BLASTED ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES ARE KILLING ME ALREADY!
THE BEAUTY OF IT IS--THE VERY THING THAT'S SENDING ME T'MY GRAVE--
--IS GONNA SEND YOU T'YOURS!

I'M
NOT
SPRAKKK
DEAD
YET!
SPOK!
KRAK!
Feisty as ever. Good. I wouldn't want this t'be TOO easy!


I want the struggle to be glorious -- an' I want the whole world bearing WITNESS! So what better place t'FINISH this than up here ...
...at the top of the world?
WE'RE GOING UP, SPIDER-MAN! WAY, WAY UP!
THE TWO OF US ARE FLYING STRAIGHT TOWARD THE GATES OF HEAVEN--
--AND THEN YOU'RE MAKIN' THE LONG DROP DOWN TO THE PITS OF HADES!
VULTURE--ARE YOU CRAZY? UP THIS HIGH--THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE WE'RE BOTH GOING TO DIE!
I DON'T THINK SO!
THE SKY'S MY ELEMENT!
MY home. The rushing wind. Soaring so high above all the worthless maggots down below.
Sweet sky: only place I've ever felt a little peace.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO HASN'T GOT A PRAYER!
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE! IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE--IF YOU REALLY ARE DYING--
--THEN WHAT'S THE POINT IN SPENDING YOUR LAST DAYS INFLICTING MORE PAIN ON PEOPLE? HAVEN'T YOU DONE ENOUGH OF THAT?
FACE YOUR DEATH WITH DIGNITY! DON'T GO OUT LIKE SOME... VULTURE--


--GO LIKE A MAN!
YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING, SPIDER-MAN--
--I AM A VULTURE!
AND I WANT YOU
DEAD!!


...WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN, MRS. PARKER.


WE'LL FIND TOOMES AND YOUR NEPHEW. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE--
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? YOU'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO STOP THAT VULTURE BEFORE!
H-HE'S A KILLER! HE KILLED MY NATHAN --AND NOW HE'S GOING TO KILL PETER!

PLEASE, MRS. PARKER ...I...AH...I UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH, BUT--

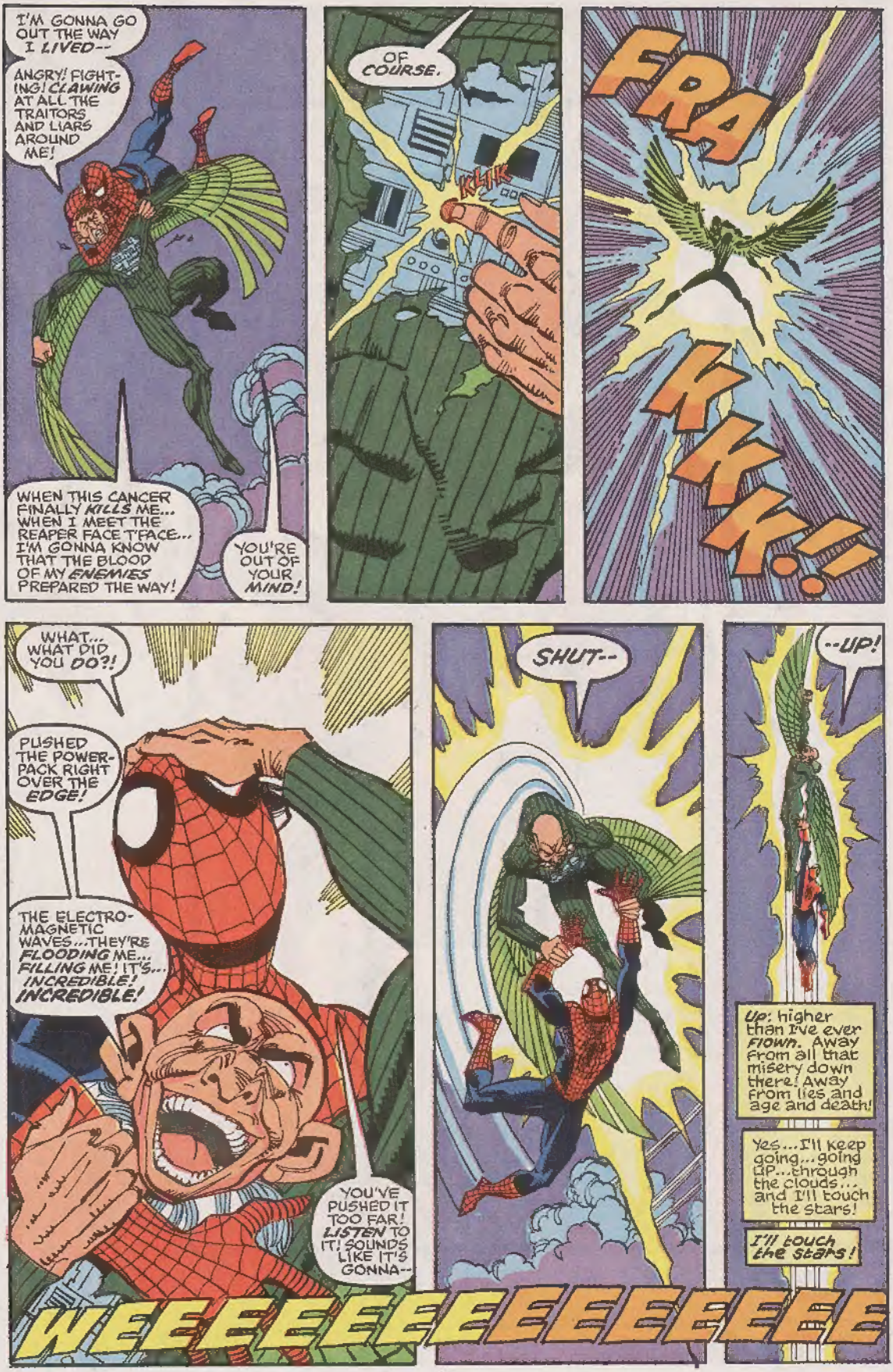
NO. YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND!
YOU DON'T KNOW ME OR MY FAMILY! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'VE STRUGGLED AND SUFFERED THROUGH ALL OUR LIVES!

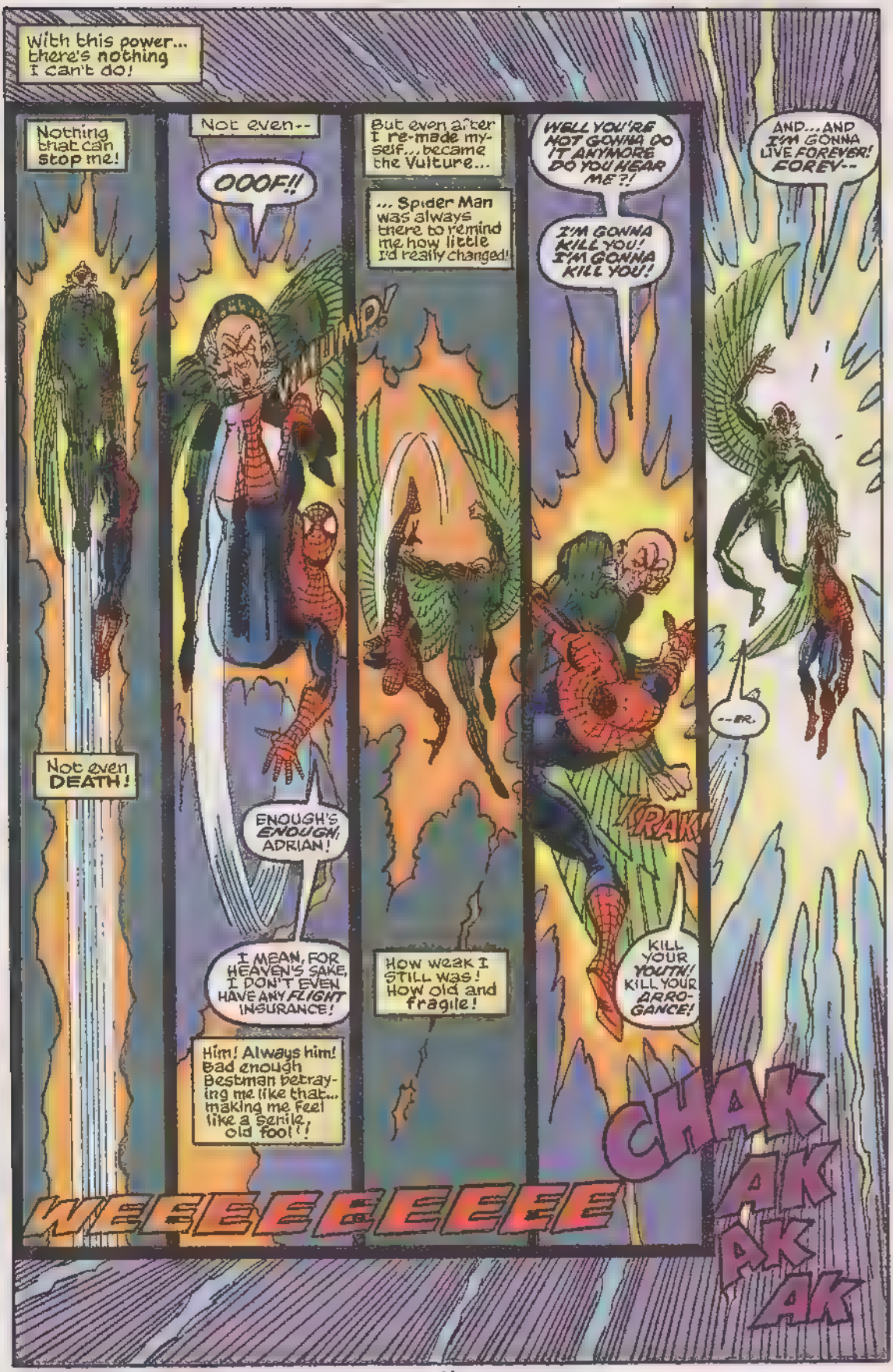
NOW YOU GET OUT OF HERE--AND YOU GET TO WORK--AND YOU FIND MY NEPHEW AND BRING HIM BACK TO ME SAFE AND SOUND--
--DO YOU HEAR ME?
...UHHH...
DO YOU HEAR ME?

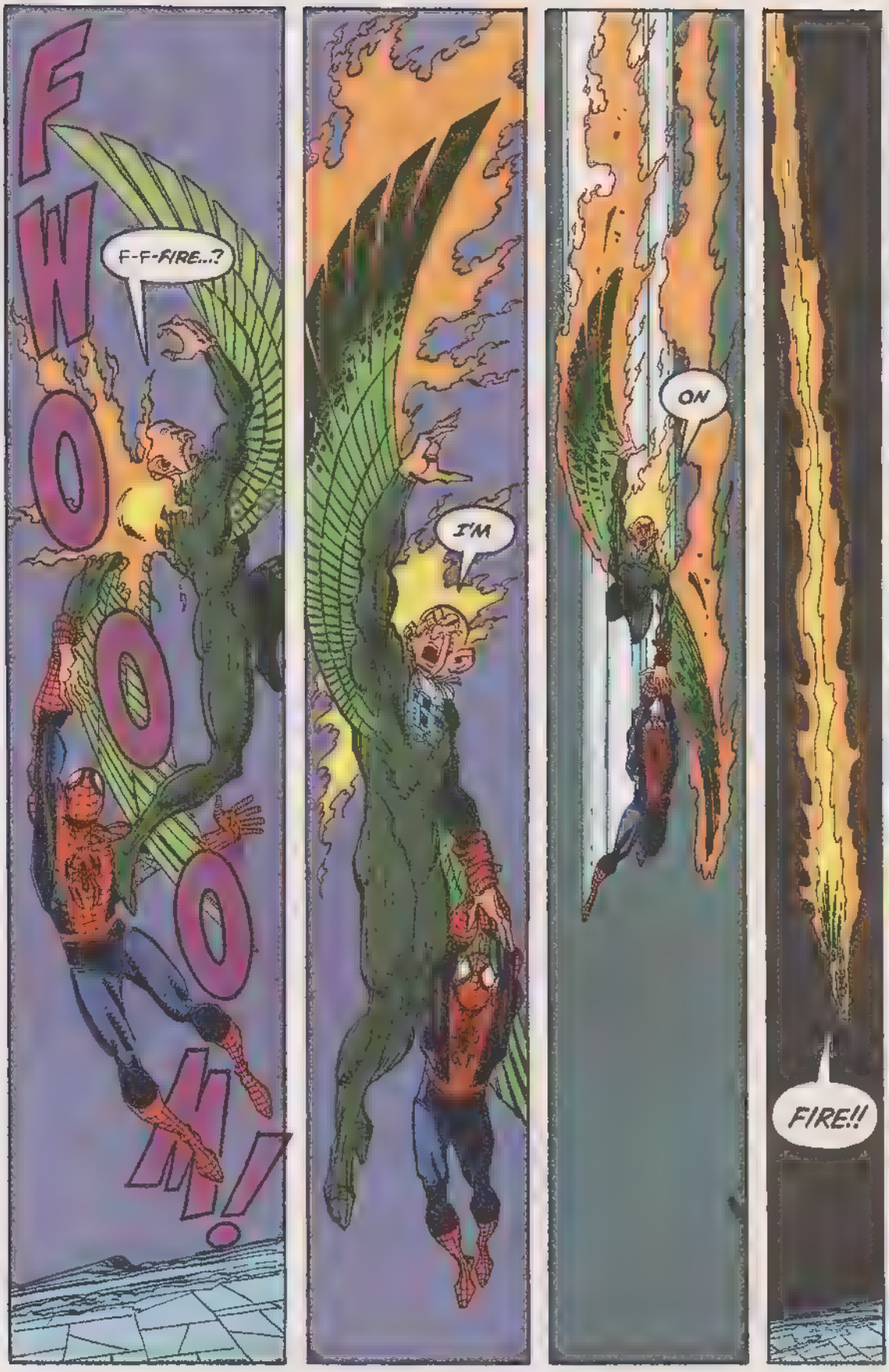
YES, MA'AM--
--I DO.

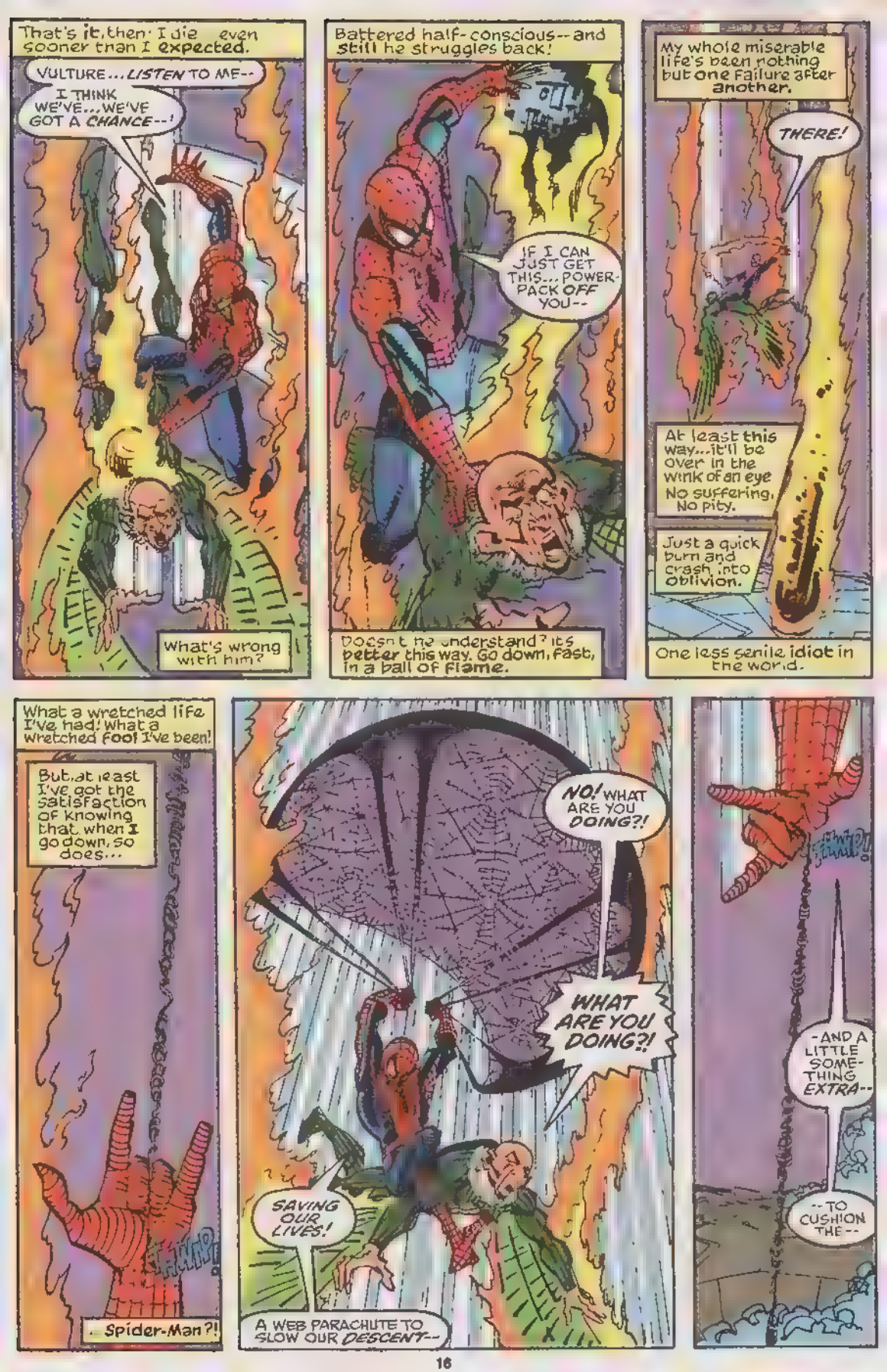
ONE MORE THING BEFORE YOU GO, DETECTIVE BRODSKY--
WHAT?
BE CAREFUL.
WILL DO, MRS. PARKER.
WILL DO.
...NOW THAT'S A LADY I'D LIKE T'HAVE WORRYING ABOUT ME.
YOU SAID IT, AND THE RED-HEAD WASN'T BAD, EITHER. Y'KNOW, I THINK I'VE SEEN HER ON TV.
COULD BE. SURE GOT THE LOOKS FOR IT.
THIS PARKER GUY'S PRETTY LUCKY T'HAVE THOSE TWO IN HIS CORNER.
YEAH. LET'S JUST HOPE HIS LUCK--
--HASN'T RUN OUT.

I've toyed with him long enough!
NO MORE GAMES, SPIDER-MAN!
TIME TO DIE!
PWAM!
One solid punch should knock him loose and send him--
NO!
IT'S TIME ALL RIGHT-- BUT NOT TO DIE!
I'M PUTTING A STOP TO THIS LUNACY --HERE AND NOW!
Forgot how fast he is,...and his GRIP! Even with my strength increased...I can't hold him off!
He's forcing me DOWN!
THERE'S BEEN ENOUGH PAIN, VULTURE! BEST-MAN IS DEAD... YOU'VE TERRORIZED THE PARKERS--
--GOD KNOWS WHO ELSE HAS SUFFERED BECAUSE OF YOU!
GIVE IT UP! LET IT END!
END?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ENDINGS?
I CAN FEEL EVERY LAST SECOND OF MY LIFE TICKING AWAY! I CAN SMELL THE STINK O' THE GRAVE... MY GRAVE! ...ALL AROUND ME!
AN' I REFUSE T'GO OUT LIKE SOME PATHETIC OLD FOOL!
LIKE THOSE DROOLING, BED-WETTING MANNEQUINS IN THE NURSING HOME!


I'M GONNA GO OUT THE WAY I LIVED--
ANGRY! FIGHTING! CLAWING AT ALL THE TRAITORS AND LIARS AROUND ME!
WHEN THIS CANCER FINALLY KILLS ME... WHEN I MEET THE REAPER FACE T'FACE... I'M GONNA KNOW THAT THE BLOOD OF MY ENEMIES PREPARED THE WAY!
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND!
OF COURSE.
KLIK
FRA
KKK!!
WHAT... WHAT DID YOU DO?!
PUSHED THE POWER-PACK RIGHT OVER THE EDGE!
THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVES...THEY'RE FLOODING ME... FILLING ME! IT'S... INCREDIBLE! INCREDIBLE!
YOU'VE PUSHED IT TOO FAR! LISTEN TO IT! SOUNDS LIKE IT'S GONNA--
WEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
SHUT--
--UP!
Up: higher than I've ever FLOWN. Away from all that misery down there! Away from lies and age and death!
Yes...I'll keep going...going UP...through the clouds... and I'll touch the stars!
I'll touch the stars!


With this power... there's nothing I can't do!
Nothing that can stop me!
Not even DEATH!
Not even--
OOOF!!
JUMP!
ENOUGH'S ENOUGH, ADRIAN!
I MEAN, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY FLIGHT INSURANCE!
Him! Always him! Bad enough Bestman betraying me like that... making me feel like a senile, old fool!!!
But even after I re-made myself... became the Vulture...
... Spider Man was always there to remind me how little I'd really changed!
How weak I STILL was! How old and fragile!
WELL YOU'RE NOT GONNA DO IT ANYMORE DO YOU HEAR ME?!
I'M GONNA KILL YOU! I'M GONNA KILL YOU!
KRAK!
KILL YOUR YOUTH! KILL YOUR ARROGANCE!
AND... AND I'M GONNA LIVE FOREVER! FOREV--
--ER.
WEEEEEEEEE
CHAK
AK
AK
AK


F-F-FIRE...?
WHOOOOOOOSH!
I'M
ON
FIRE!!

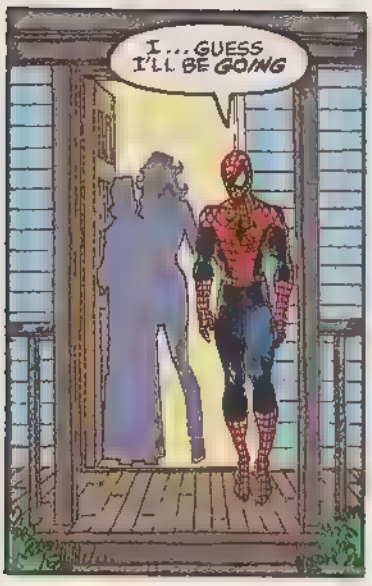

That's it, then. I die sooner than I expected.
VULTURE... LISTEN TO ME--
I THINK WE'VE... WE'VE GOT A CHANCE--!
What's wrong with him?
Battered half-conscious--and still he struggles back!
IF I CAN JUST GET THIS... POWER-PACK OFF YOU--
Doesn't he understand? It's better this way. Go down, fast, in a ball of flame.
My whole miserable life's been nothing but one failure after another.
THERE!
At least this way...it'll be over in the wink of an eye. No suffering. No pity.
Just a quick burn and crash into oblivion.
One less senile idiot in the world.
What a wretched life I've had! What a wretched fool I've been!
But, at least I've got the satisfaction of knowing that, when I go down, so does...
Spider-Man?!
NO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
SAVING OUR LIVES!
A WEB PARACHUTE TO SLOW OUR DESCENT--
-AND A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA--
--TO CUSHION THE--

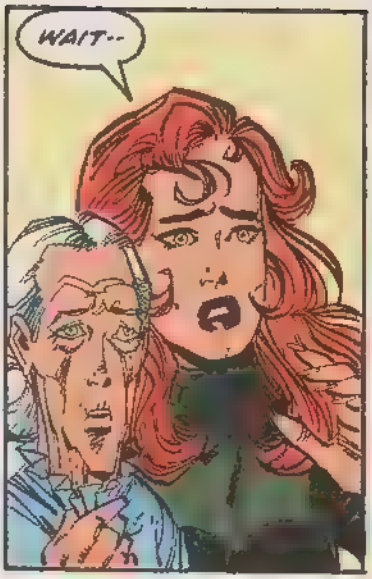
--FAAALLL!!
NOT THE SOFTEST LANDING ON RECORD--
--BUT AT LEAST I'M IN ONE PIECE.
LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE, TOO, ADRIAN. BURNS DON'T LOOK TOO BAD, EITHER. GUESS IT'S YOUR LUCKY DAY, HUH?
NO NO, DON'T THANK ME. AFTER ALL, I ONLY SAVED YOUR MURDERING SKIN--
M-
WHAT'D YOU SAY?
WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME DIE?

NOPE--
--IT'S NOT GOING TO BE *THAT* EASY.

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

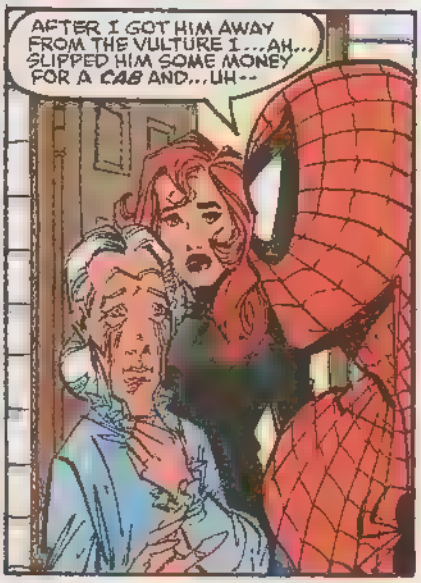
MRS. PARKER--I BELIEVE THIS MAN HAS SOMETHING HE'D LIKE TO SAY TO YOU--
--DON'T YOU, VULTURE?
...I...
I...APOLOGIZE... FOR ALL THE PAIN I'VE CAUSED YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.
I HOPE YOUR DEATH IS LONG--
--AND FULL OF SUFFERING.
I'M SURE IT WILL BE, SWEET LADY...
I'm sure it will be

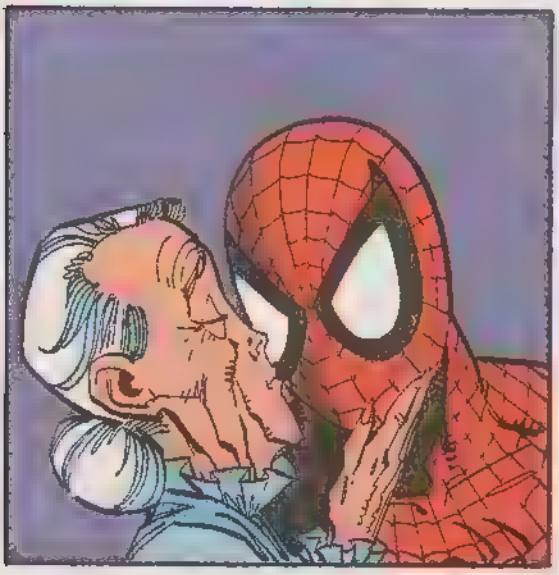

I... GUESS I'LL BE GOING

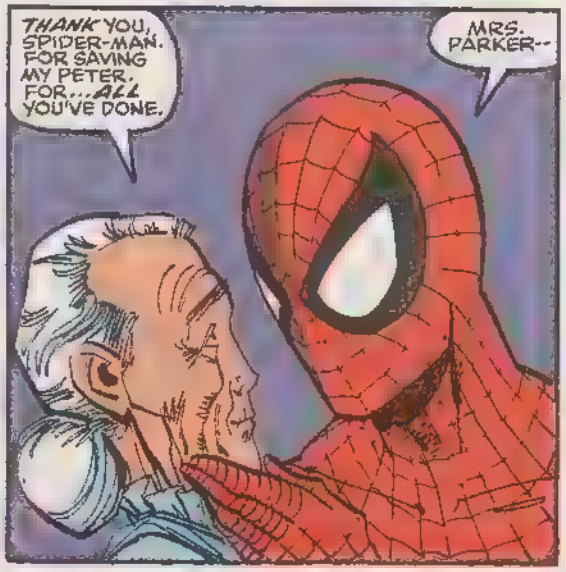

WAIT--

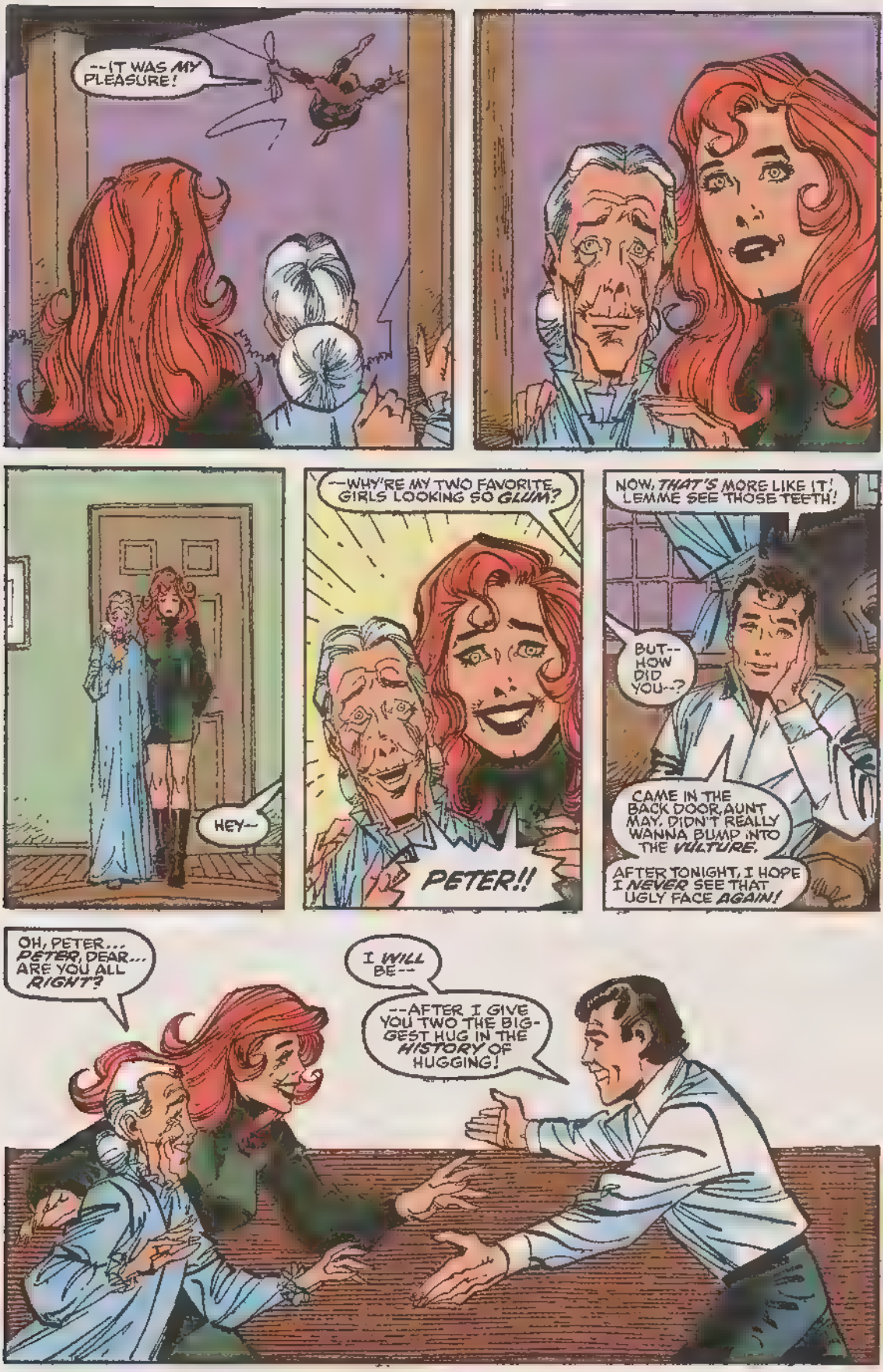
MY HUSBAND... PETER PARKER... IS HE ALL RIGHT?

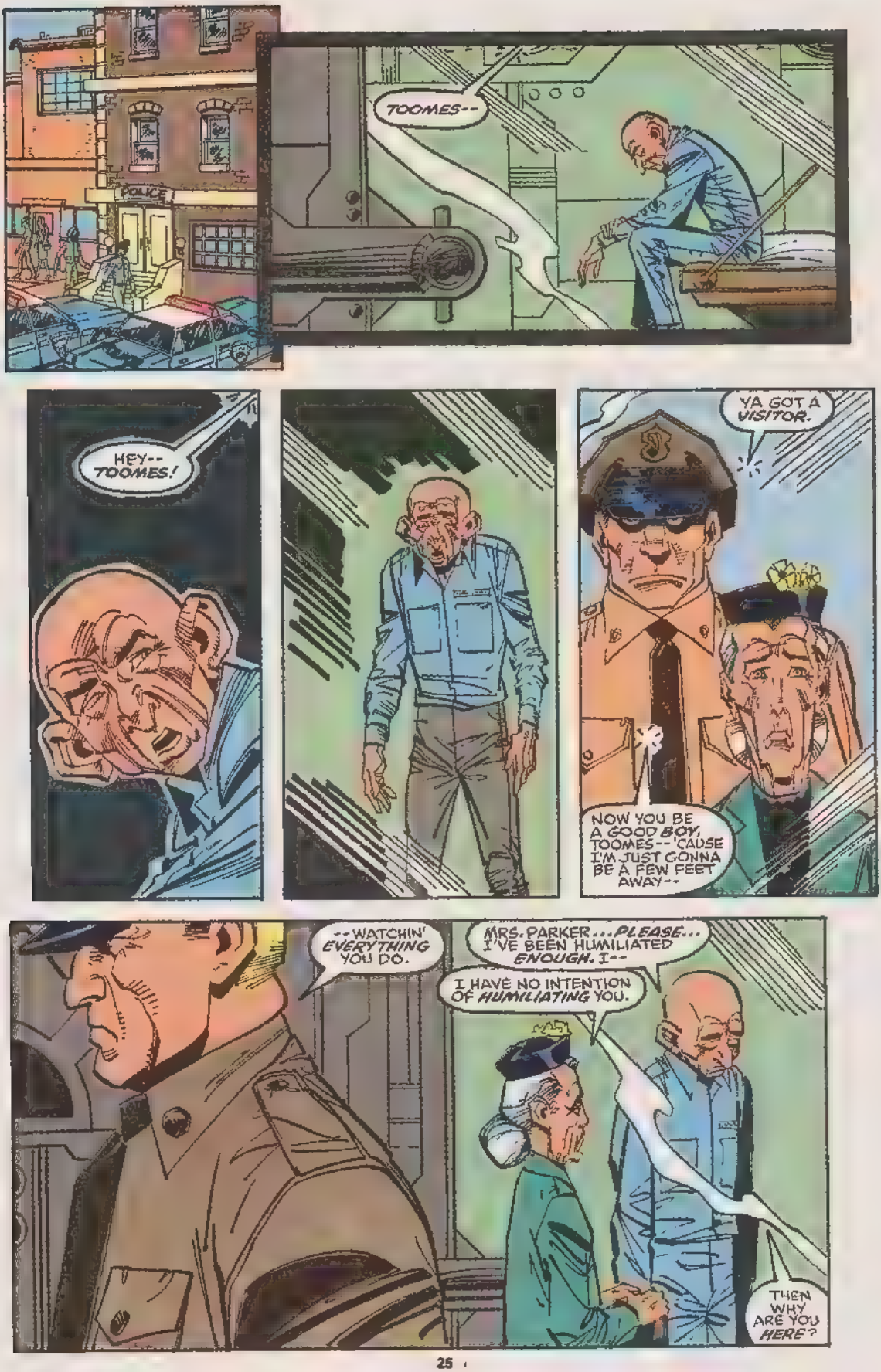
HIS AUNT IS... I MEAN, WE'RE BOTH... SO WORRIED ABOUT HIM.
WELL, WORRY NO MORE. PARKER'S FINE. HARDLY A MARK ON HIM. HE'S A PRETTY FEISTY GUY.


AFTER I GOT HIM AWAY FROM THE VULTURE I... AH... SLIPPED HIM SOME MONEY FOR A CAB AND... UH--




THANK YOU, SPIDER-MAN. FOR SAVING MY PETER. FOR... ALL YOU'VE DONE.
MRS. PARKER--


--IT WAS MY PLEASURE!
HEY--
--WHY'RE MY TWO FAVORITE GIRLS LOOKING SO GLUM?
PETER!!
NOW, THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! LEMME SEE THOSE TEETH!
BUT-- HOW DID YOU--?
CAME IN THE BACK DOOR, AUNT MAY. DIDN'T REALLY WANNA BUMP INTO THE VULTURE.
AFTER TONIGHT, I HOPE I NEVER SEE THAT UGLY FACE AGAIN!
OH, PETER... PETER, DEAR... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I WILL BE--
--AFTER I GIVE YOU TWO THE BIGGEST HUG IN THE HISTORY OF HUGGING!


POLICE
TOOMES--
HEY-- TOOMES!
YA GOT A VISITOR.
NOW YOU BE A GOOD BOY, TOOMES-- 'CAUSE I'M JUST GONNA BE A FEW FEET AWAY--
--WATCHIN' EVERYTHING YOU DO.
MRS. PARKER... PLEASE... I'VE BEEN HUMILIATED ENOUGH. I--
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF HUMILIATING YOU.
THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

By now, I hope you're fully recovered from the culture shock of last issue's announcement, where we learned that Jim (Terminator) Cameron plans to write and direct a proposed mega-movie starring the world's greatest web-swinger!

But you know that maniacal Marvel is never content to rest on its laurels, besides, we always have to have some new excitement popping so that I'll have something to write about in ye old Soapbox every month. So here's another pandemonious pronouncement — so electrifying that perhaps you'd better take it sitting down!

Not only is Jim Cameron arguably the greatest action adventure writer /director in the galaxy, but he's also so tuned in to the mighty Marvel mythos that he is about to tackle a *second* project of ours! Which one? Hey, wouldja believe — **THE X-MEN?!**

Even as you read these senses-staggering sentences, Jolly Jim is preparing an entire series of animated X-Men cartoons for TV! But we're not talking the ordinary, run-of-the-mill cartoons you're used to seeing! We're talking Hollywood's greatest actors doing the voices! We're talking animation like you've never seen before! We're talking stories, artwork and special effects that will rival the wonder and spectacle of our mags themselves! We're talking about Jim Cameron personally producing the entire series and giving it the style and scope that only he can bring.

And then, once the cartoon series is under our belt, don't be surprised if we tell you about a *live-action* X-Men movie, just so Spidey won't be lonely up there on the big screen!

There's more, but I'm out of space, so stay tuned till next ish. Marvel's soaring like an eagle, and we want you flying with us all the way!

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee

When we think of March, we think of the future, since the very name "March" implies that we are moving forward, like time eternal. We decided this month to look into the future, aided by noted astrologist and dental hygienist, Jean Predixon.

Join us now as we present our look at the world of tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow, or perhaps the day after next Wednesday.

In the future, there will be no money! Instead, people will use comic books as currency! And the rarer a comic is, the more it will be worth. The richest man in the world will be the man who owns a complete set of STREET POET RAY!

In the future, every Marvel title will have the letter "X" in front of it's name!

In the future, every comic will have a double-gatefold, die cut, glow in the dark cover .. and there will be no pages on the inside!

In the future, comics will cost $10.00 each, and today's reader will be nostalgic and say, "I can remember when they were only $1.25!"

In the future, dark, gritty characters will become a thing of the past. They will be replaced by tender, sensitive characters. The hottest Marvel titles will be comics featuring Alan Alda and Phil Donahue!

In the future, editor **Ralph Macchio** will actually show up for work before three in the afternoon. (All right, so the crystal ball was a little hazy on this one.)

In the future, editor in chief **Tom DeFalco** will start dressing like Odin, and demand to be called "All-Father Tom"

In the future, managing editor **Glenn Herdling** will perform at Radio City Music Hall, giving a concert with his ability to make music with his hands.

In the future, managing editor **Marie Javins'** wall of cow drawings by famous artists will become a wall of goats instead.

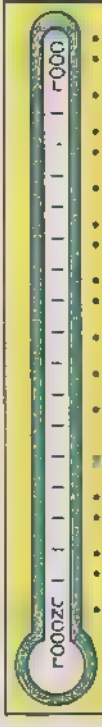
In the future, WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING writer **Mike Lackey** will not get hit over the head with a steel chair by a wrestler, as he dreamed of, but he will instead be smacked by a shopping cart pushed by Hulk Hogan in the supermarket.

In the future, editor **Mike Rockwitz** will have an entire issue of CONAN tattooed on his body. Only his girlfriend will get to read the whole story.

In the future, SLEEPWALKER writer **Bob Budiansky** will actually start sleepwalking around the Marvel offices. When awakened, he will claim he was merely doing research.

MARCH COOLOMETER

WHAT THE BULLPEN WAS BUZZING ABOUT LAST DECEMBER



- NOMAD
- CHRISTOPHER COLOMBUS
- SKI TRIPS WITH THE GANG
- BAD HAIR DAYS
- DEATH BY BEE-STINGS
- VALENTINES FROM ENEMIES
- THE CHUNNEL
- *JUSTICE LEAGUE ARCHIVES*
- *ALIENS 3*
- SOVIET DISSSOLUTION
- OPERATION: GALACTIC STORM
- GAS PANCAKE GALAXIES
- HOLIDAY DECORATIONS STILL UP
- FOR GOOD SHOWS
- MICHAEL JACKSON
- 19-PART CROSSOVERS
- SRI LANKA
- HOOK, LINE AND SINKER
- DISSING FELLOW PROS IN PRINT

In the future, **Bob Harras** will get the rights to all the X-books, and go off and form his own separate comics company, called Harras E. Comics. It would be the third largest comic book company in the country. **Terry Kavanagh** will be thankful that EXCALIBUR starts with an "E", not an "X"!

In the future, **Roy Thomas** and **Fabian Nicieza** will battle it out to see which one of them has the right to write every single Marvel Comic every month. It will end in a draw, with the two splitting the Marvel line equally

In the future, editor **Rob Tokar** will edit a comic that will not get canceled after six issues or less.

In the future, managing editor **Tom Brevoort**, who has read every Marvel and DC comic published for the past five years, will actually skip one issue of one series. When asked why, Tom will respond "Well, I can't read *everything*, you know!"

In the future, comics will be ed ble! They'll be printed on bread, and after you finish reading an issue, you'll be able to eat it! This will really put a crimp in back issue sales.

In the future, a major Marvel hero will actually reach the big screen. The character? Willie Lumpkin, the ear-wiggling mailman!

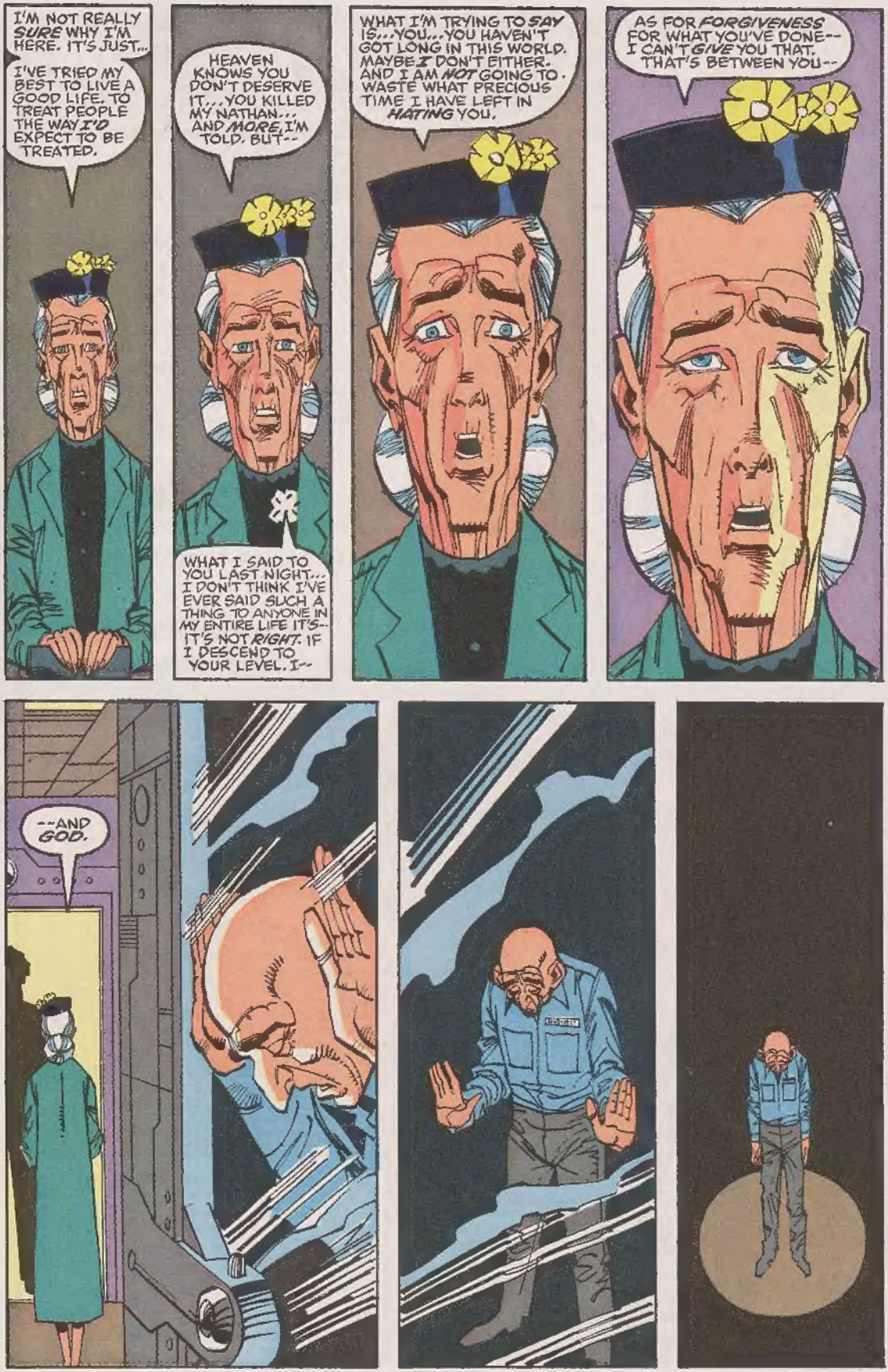
In the future, the Marvel Comics company will grow so large that it will crush all other comics companies under its heel like a fifty-foot reptile. Then it will go on a rampage, destroying everything in its path, until it tries to climb the Empire State Building and is shot down by bi-planes.

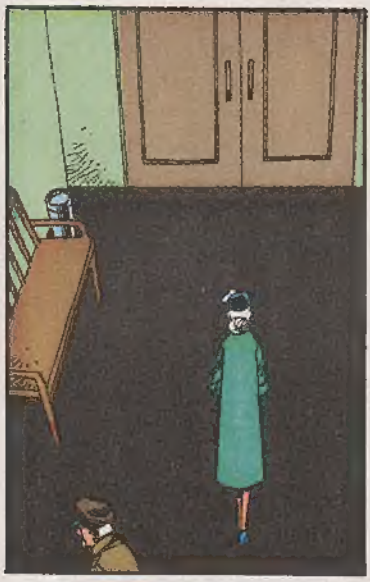
In the future, Spider-Man and Mary Jane will have lots of babies, and Spidey will find that his web fluid makes a perfect disposable diaper!

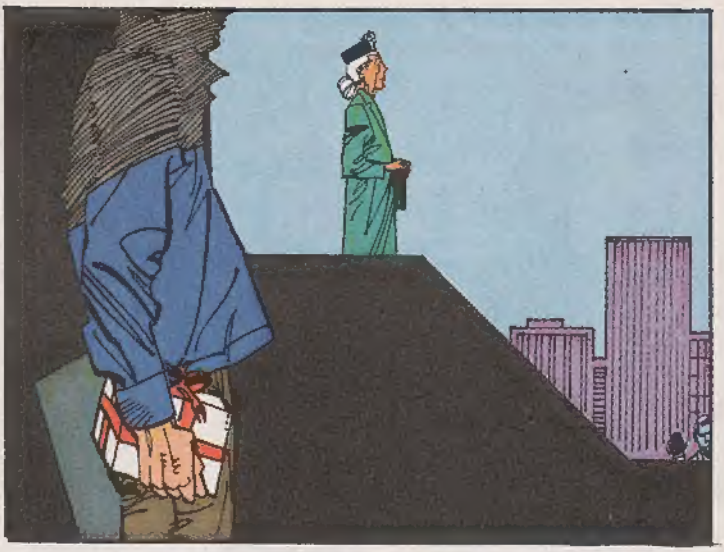
In the future, Marvel will do a multi part crossover that crosses over retroactively into evry comic we ever published, and every comic we will ever publish! If you miss one issue, the whole story will be ruined!

In the future, Bill and Ted will actually go an entire issue without uttering the word "Dude" in BILL AND TED'S EXCELLENT COMIC BOOK!

Those are the predictions we have right now. It should be interesting to see which if any come true. In closing, we'd just like to remind you not to miss this month's issues of X-NAMOR, and X-EXCALIBUR! See you next X-Month!


I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHY I'M HERE. IT'S JUST...
I'VE TRIED MY BEST TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE. TO TREAT PEOPLE THE WAY I'D EXPECT TO BE TREATED.
HEAVEN KNOWS YOU DON'T DESERVE IT...YOU KILLED MY NATHAN... AND MORE, I'M TOLD. BUT--
WHAT I SAID TO YOU LAST NIGHT... I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SAID SUCH A THING TO ANYONE IN MY ENTIRE LIFE IT'S-- IT'S NOT RIGHT. IF I DESCEND TO YOUR LEVEL. I--
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...YOU...YOU HAVEN'T GOT LONG IN THIS WORLD. MAYBE I DON'T EITHER. AND I AM NOT GOING TO WASTE WHAT PRECIOUS TIME I HAVE LEFT IN HATING YOU.
AS FOR FORGIVENESS FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE-- I CAN'T GIVE YOU THAT. THAT'S BETWEEN YOU--
--AND GOD.





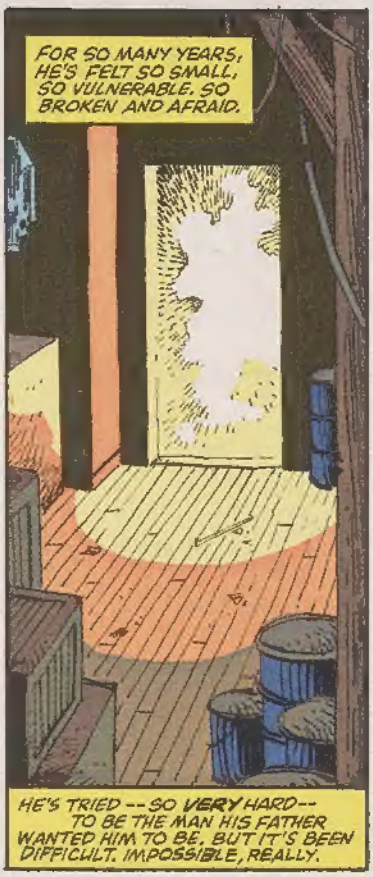
MRS. PARKER!
MRS. PARKER!

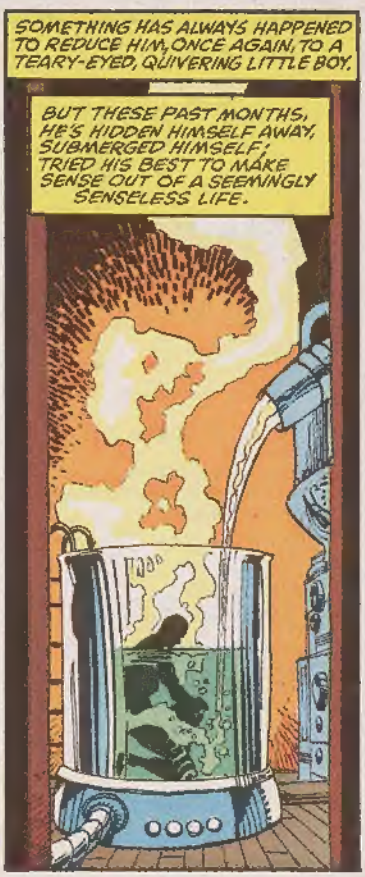
WHAT--?
WHY...HELLO! WHAT A LOVELY SURPRISE, RUNNING INTO YOU LIKE THIS! IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME.
HOW ARE YOU? HOW'S THE FAMILY?
FINE. WE'RE ALL...JUST FINE.
THIS REALLY IS AN AMAZING COINCIDENCE, YOU SEE, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR PETER...IT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT--

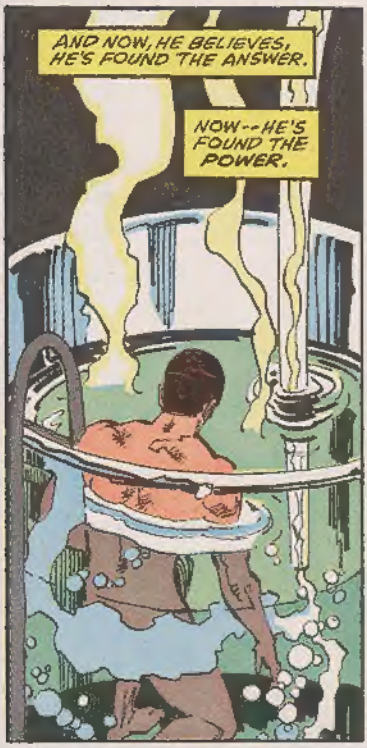
--BUT I HAVE TO GO OUT OF TOWN ON A BUSINESS TRIP, Y'KNOW HOW IT IS. CAME UP AT THE LAST MINUTE.
ANYWAY, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND GIVING THIS TO PETER FOR ME. OF COURSE, IF IT'D BE ANY TROUBLE--
TROUBLE? DON'T BE SILLY! I'D BE DELIGHTED TO DO IT--

--HARRY.

IT'S A LITTLE ON THE FRAGILE SIDE... SO TREAT IT GENTLY, OK?
OH, WHAT A LOVELY JOB YOU DID WRAPPING IT.
WELL, NOTHING'S TOO GOOD FOR OUR PETER. AND DON'T YOU DARE PEEK INSIDE, MRS. PARKER--
--I WANT THIS TO BE A TOTAL SURPRISE.
HARRY OSBORN! I WOULDN'T THINK OF PEEKING!
FORGIVE ME, MY TRESPASSES, M'LADY! I SHALL NEVER SPEAK SO BRAZENLY TO YOU AGAIN!
OH, HARRY-- YOU ALWAYS BRING A SMILE TO MY FACE. JUST LIKE PETER!
AND NOW-- I'M OFF!
I'D OFFER YOU A RIDE, BUT I'M RUNNING EXTREMELY LATE AS IT IS.
THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT, DEAR. THE BUS STOP'S JUST UP THE BLOCK.
IT WAS WONDERFUL SEEING YOU AGAIN, MRS. PARKER. YOU BE SURE AND SEND ALL MY LOVE TO PETER AND MARY JANE.
'BYE, NOW!
GOOD-BYE, HARRY. SEND MY BEST TO LIZ AND LITTLE NORMAN!
HAVE A SAFE TRIP!
I hope he's all right. He seemed a little... nervous. Like something wasn't quite right. Probably just pre-travel jitters.
Harry's always been so sensitive. And so dear. Of all Peter's friends...
I've always liked him best.


FOR SO MANY YEARS, HE'S FELT SO SMALL, SO VULNERABLE, SO BROKEN AND AFRAID.
HE'S TRIED -- SO VERY HARD -- TO BE THE MAN HIS FATHER WANTED HIM TO BE. BUT IT'S BEEN DIFFICULT. IMPOSSIBLE, REALLY.


SOMETHING HAS ALWAYS HAPPENED TO REDUCE HIM, ONCE AGAIN, TO A TEARY-EYED, QUIVERING LITTLE BOY.
BUT THESE PAST MONTHS, HE'S HIDDEN HIMSELF AWAY, SUBMERGED HIMSELF; TRIED HIS BEST TO MAKE SENSE OUT OF A SEEMINGLY SENSELESS LIFE.



NEXT:
THE **GREEN GOBLIN** RETURNS -- AND HE'S OUT FOR BLOOD!

BE HERE FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE DOUBLE-SIZE EXTRAVAGANZA -- AS WE CELEBRATE SPIDER-MAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND EXPLORE THE CHILLING RAMIFICATIONS OF -- **"THE OSBORN LEGACY!"**